

25X1

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24 March 1970

copy 4

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25X1 MEMORANDUM FOR: [] Control Officer, CIA

25X1 SUBJECT: Film Support []

25X1 1. Under arrangements worked out by your office NPIC has been
providing [] with [] imagery in support
of a joint assessment of the Soviet ground forces since July 1969.
25X1 The initial film requests took advantage of available, expendable stocks
of older [] missions, supplemented by in-house processed duplicates when
gaps in coverage existed. This phase of support was completed on 5 March
25X1 1970, at which time [] had received the appropriate portions
of all missions through [] []. As of this date missions [] and
25X1 [] are outstanding and NPIC copies are not available for loan because
of extensive use by in-house requesters.

2. In the initial agreements it was determined that subsequent
missions would be released from Center film library holdings approximately
ten weeks following receipt of the mission by the Center. This determina-
tion was based upon the estimate that a ten week period would be adequate
for fulfilling Center requirements and avoiding extensive film duplication
requirements.

25X1 3. During the initial months of providing [] with shelf copies,
little or no inconvenience or expense was incurred due to the age of the
missions being shipped. However, it is becoming increasingly more diffi-
cult and costly to meet the [] requirements. Often film requested
by in-house requesters is out on loan [] or has had critical frames
edited from the returned loan copies. Significant lost time and additional
expense is experienced as duplicates are required to replace these edited
frames. In addition, as [] are receiving coverage of targets
25X1 that are of high interest to NPIC analysts we have found that we have had
to reproduce large portions of the film loaned in order to insure that they
receive complete coverage.

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

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SUBJECT: Film Support [redacted]

25X1 4. In view of the continuing nature of the requirement and the
25X1 increasing costs and inconveniences to the Center to support this
requirement under the existing procedures, it is recommended that the
[redacted] be provided with a low priority copy of the selected
portions of each subsequent mission from the processing site. The fact
that the [redacted] exploitation effort will soon be expanded to include
work on Chinese ground force installation gives this recommendation
additional weight and significance. We do not feel it will be practical
to continue to operate under the current procedures.

5. Your earliest attention to this recommendation would be appreciated.

[redacted]
NPIC

Distribution:

- copies 1 & 2 - TCO/CIA
- 3 - TSO/CIA
- 4 - NPIC/ODIR
- 5 - NPIC/PSG
- 6 - NPIC/IEG
- 7 - NPIC/PPBS
- 8 - D/OSR
- 9 - DIAXX/SAO [redacted]